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**FEBRUARY 19-28, 2013**

# Ragashanti Cries Foul

By Patrick Maitland  
Street Hype Editor

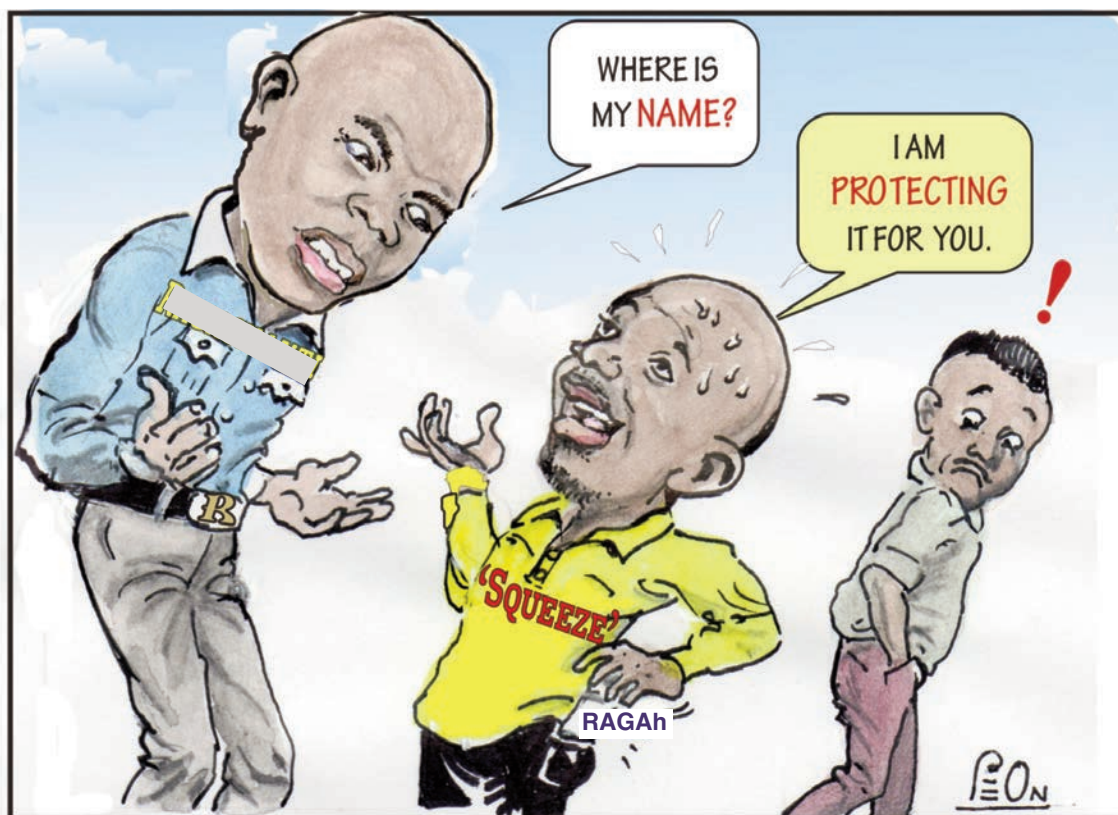
Jamaican born anthropologist and radio disc jockey, Kingsley 'Ragashanti' Stewart described Link Up Radio's CEO, David 'Squeeze' Annakie's attempt to trademark his name without his knowledge as "disgusting, evil and wicked."

Stewart told *Street Hype Newspaper* that several days after quitting his post at *Link Up Radio* he discovered that his former boss applied to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) to trademark his stage name 'Ragashanti' of over ten years.

"It is a colossal betrayal characteristic of an extremely dishonest con-man. I firmly believe his value as a person to be lower than that of excrement. His actions have lead me to not trust anything he says, and I cannot imagine how anyone, after hearing what he did, would trust or believe anything he says about anything," an angry Ragashanti fumed.

According to the USPTO website an individual "David Annakie of 225 Broadway #2800, New York, NY 10007," on November 14, 2012 filed an application for a trademark that contains the word 'Ragashanti.' A fee of \$275 was paid and the serial number 85778915 was assigned.

Continued on page 4



## Students vote to kick Coke

Student activist Cathy Rojas reported that the Student Association of the University of Albany/State University of New York passed a resolution on December 5, 2012 seeking to make the University at Albany and all other SUNY campuses Coca-Cola-free. The resolution highlights the horrors of racial discrimination at Coca-Cola bottling plants in New York; the ongoing violence against union leaders and family members to destroy unions in Colombia and Guatemala, the use of illegal child



labor to harvest sugar cane for Coke's sugar processors in El Salvador and the overexploitation and pollution of scarce water resources in India leaving large populations of people with no water for irrigation, drinking and sanitation.

The resolves in the resolution are: therefore, be it resolved that the SA Senate recommends to University at Albany that the campus not serve Coca-Cola products on its campus, including at its events, meetings, conferences, and delegate assemblies,

Guatemala, the use of illegal child

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# Editorial

## Our Children Need a 'family'

As we continue to celebrate February as Black History Month it is always important for us to focus on members of our family especially the children.

Recent data supplied by the Children's Defense Fund revealed that a significant number of our kids are being raised out side of the nuclear family that includes a husband, his wife, and children.

The reliable consanguineal or extended family that includes parents and children co-reside with other members of one parent's family is also fading away among the Africans American and Black communities. About five percent of our Black children live with grandparents and just over two percent live with other relatives.

Several studies cited the absence of family structure for the social and economic challenges affecting our children.

As many of our children are left without family support systems, they are often face with daunting challenges.

For example, fewer than 40 percent of all Black children live with two parents, compared to about 75 percent of White children. Over 70 percent of Black babies are born to unmarried mothers, more than twice the rate for White babies and higher than any other racial or ethnic group.

Black children are more than twice as likely as other children to live with neither parent, while fifty percent of Black children live with only their mother who in most cases cannot afford to maintain the children.

According to the Children's Defense Fund the median income for a Black female-headed household with one or more children and without a husband present was \$22,158, barely above the poverty level for a family of three. Almost half of Black female-headed households with children were poor.

Low income, unemployment, lack of prenatal care, poor health and being uninsured, put young children at high risk of entering the 'cradle to prison pipeline.'

Black youth also have the highest unemployment rate and nearly one in three Black high school graduates age 16 to 24 are unemployed.

While there are several other issues contributing negatively to the social and economic well-being of African Americans, the absence of the family structure has compounded the problems.

As we celebrate February as Black History Month, let us give our children a "family."



patrick@streethype.net

The opinions expressed in this newspaper, except for the above, do not necessarily reflect the views of Street Hype Newspaper and its publishers. Please send your comments and or suggestions to [editor@streethypenewspaper.com](mailto:editor@streethypenewspaper.com). Responses should be no longer than 400 words. Not all articles will be published

## people are talking...!

### My Hairstylist Lacks Customer Services

With so many hair salons why do some hairdressers behave as if you the customers do not have any other options but to use them? A few years ago a new salon opened on Linden Boulevard in Queens.

I was dazzled by their décor so I decided to give them a try. When I sat in the salon chair, the hair dresser told me that my hair was extremely damaged and she had to cut it. I agreed but she refused to have me look in the mirror.

According to her, she is a professional and since I came to her she knows what was best for me. When the hairdresser completed my hair I began to cry. Half of my hair was gone.

That didn't upset me as much as the cashier which was her husband. He asked me what was my problem and I am acting like a baby. If that was not enough, he calculated my bill at \$90. Before I sat in the chair, his wife quoted me \$55. According to him, she did not realize that my hair was that damaged. I walked out of that salon never to return again.

Customer service is the ability to meet the customers' needs. Excellent customer service is the ability to continuously surpass customers' expectations, but so many small business owners fail to do this. A key ingredient to customer service is communication.

As a customer, we wanted to be treated with respect no matter the price of the product or service. Showing your customers that you are listening to them and

### Dr Neva Speaks



[neva@nevaalexander.com](mailto:neva@nevaalexander.com)

value their feedback, combined with the ability to convey clear messages with friendliness and understanding will enhance your customers' experience. Few steps to make your customer feel at ease:

1. Listen attentively
2. Knowing when to say sorry can make a difference and make your customers feel that they are important.

A secret to successful communication lies in the capability to gauge your customer's own communication style and understand their expectation.

When you understand your customer you are able to service them better. Just remember that happy customers are the best advertisement money cannot buy.



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Published by:  
**JAMVISTA INC.**

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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## No impropriety after years of intense probing!

Dear Mr. Editor:

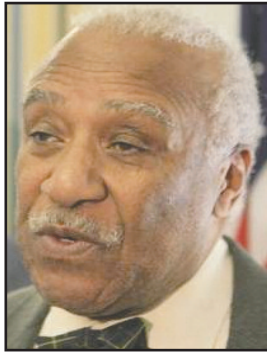
The press feeding frenzy regarding funds set up by me years ago that embraced scholarship, disaster relief and endowment raises the question of motivation given the facts. One must wonder their motives given my historical relationship with and past coverage by the local media.

Despite the fact that I readily explained, contrary to Comptroller Maureen Walker's false assertions and deliberate mislabeling of Disaster Relief funds, that there is no such thing as a Katrina account and further provided verification of the account title, truth and fact to support reality apparently means nothing when the intent is to slander and undermine my leadership and reputation.

No impropriety is evidenced, no jaw dropping revelation can be unearthed after years of intense probing, yet, even with this knowledge; articles continue to be written and video file footage accompanying televised reports depicting seeming wrongdoing are aired.

Clips dug from archives showing the FBI taking out mostly empty boxes from city hall in 2007 and a raucous campaign

by  
**Ernie Davis**  
**Mount Vernon**  
**Mayor**



clash, spearheaded by a political opponent, are shown for the express purpose of casting doubt on my honesty and integrity.

To support this ruse, innocent people associated with me are being used as fodder for sensationalistic headline seeking investigative reporters, possibly in the hopes that some journalist can gain notoriety by being the one to uncover contrived wrongdoing.

Maybe, they hope, with enough intimidation and harassment, someone will become so annoyed by their constant badgering calls to cellular and home phones and unannounced appearances at private residences, that a tidbit of information can be obtained, that can be misinterpreted and/or deliberately twisted to spew to the masses,

of course, under catchy bylines and breaking news headlines flickering across television screens.

It matters not who gets hurt or who is placed in harm's way. What matters most is crafting a negative perception of my virtue, but for what purpose if no wrongdoing is uncovered? My supporters and a growing number of people suspect this is more of an attempt at lynching by press journalistic fact finding.

Sensible people ponder the likelihood of other politicians in our county being raked through the coals as I have been after spending decades trying to do what is in the best interest of my community. I am outspoken. I tell it like it is; good, bad and ugly. I make no excuses and will not sell out my beliefs for political expediency. And, because of this people gravitate toward me, expecting my voice as their leader to carry their messages since theirs goes unheard.

Being treated as I and those in my company have been speaks volumes as to the lengths the press and others will go to silence the outspoken and to mar one's reputation. Would every politician finding themselves victim of such attempts at char-

acter assassination have the stamina to continue leadership, or would they fade into obscurity, freeing themselves, their families and supporters from public flogging? I am too old to run and have fought too many battles to shy away from this one. I will remain steadfast in my faith and my commitment to my city, unwavering amid ferocious assault that would run most others off.

I don't expect that the path of unrighteousness shall change; so my leadership will continue along the value system that it always has - outspoken, devoid of hate and steadfast in commitment. My administration will continue to create an environment where community respects knowledge and recognizes that no matter how just a system professes to be, there will be those who are treated unjustifiably. They will see by example that fear will not impede progress.

After all is said and done, history will long remember those who stand up for a city whose passion and greatness, yet to be fully explored, will be realized through hard work, perseverance, integrity and yes, lack of fear in the face of ruthless opposition from those desirous of undermining progressive leadership.

## New Jersey Tax Preparer Shut Down

The United States has asked a federal court in Camden, N.J., to bar Doris E. Baules, who operates D'Vazquez Tax Solutions, from preparing tax returns for others, the Justice Department announced recently.

According to the government complaint, Baules continually and improperly claimed the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) on her clients' returns to enable them to receive erroneous tax refunds. The suit alleges that the defendant improperly increases their EITC claims.

The Internal Revenue Service previously conducted an investigation into the tax returns that Baules prepared for the 2009 tax year, and assessed \$12,500 in return preparer penalties against her because she failed to exercise due diligence in determining whether her clients were entitled to the EITC.

## Ragashanti Cries Foul

Continued from page 1

The USPTO investigation revealed that a radio personality has been using the name for many years and requested that Annakie clarify whether the name 'Ragashanti' identifies a particular living individual and, if so, provide a written consent from this individual.

Annakie was unable to meet the condition of USPTO. However, days after (February 14, 2013) the website, www.jamaicangroupiemet.com revealed that he was in the process of registering 'Ragashanti,' Annakie filed a "Request for Express Abandonment" of name 'Ragashanti.'

Stewart insisted that he was never aware that Annakie was attempting to trademark his name. "For years now I trademarked my name in Jamaica with the Jamaica Intellectual Property Office (JIPO),

and I simply did not get around to doing the same here in the US. I would never give, Mr. Annakie (or anyone else) permission to trademark my name and doing so would be absolutely absurd," Stewart adds.

He said the "six month radio ban" as outlined in his contract with Annakie is not enforceable as the "law does not allow Squeeze to prevent me from immediately making a living including pay my bills and taxes as a broadcaster in the New York tri-state area."

Commenting on his professional career, Stewart said, "at the moment I'm very focused on developing my entertainment web site mixupyaad.com and other projects.

Stewart also disclosed that he resigned six weeks before his contract would have ended as "I just couldn't bear anymore of Squeeze's unrelenting attempts to own and

control me. Di man come een like silva ticks inna cow back, him jus waan suck yuh out soh!! And I'm not attracted to the option of having Squeeze suck me."

Annakie ignored several attempts by *Street Hype* to have his comments, however in one of his Facebook postings he said that it was a "standard practice for him to trademark the names or brands connected to his company."

In an email to Stewart (Feb 12) Annakie wrote, "Big man ting, sometime you just have to listen and then tell mi f...k off...I mean no ill...and that's my word on my kids. I never said anything to harm you and will not, if there is something u don't like a phone call always fix things, but jumping the gun just mek it bad for everyone. I have been receiving calls to be nasty and I refuse to. A lot of people like and dislike you and I the same. It's just not



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## NEWS

## Man Faces Drug and Gun Charges

Mount Vernon, N.Y.

Anthony McLean, 32, a Mount Vernon resident faces felony drug and weapons charges following a raid at his north side residence.



On Friday (February 22) two members of the Mount Vernon Police Department Narcotics Unit executed a search warrant at 43 North Bleeker Street.

Once inside, detectives seized a loaded .380 caliber handgun and a quantity of heroin and crack cocaine.

McLean has been charged with 3rd Degree criminal possession of a weapon, and 2nd and 3rd Degree criminal possession of a controlled substance. McLean has an arrest history that dates back to 2001 and includes seven arrests, five of them felonies. He has been convicted of two violent felonies and one misdemeanor.

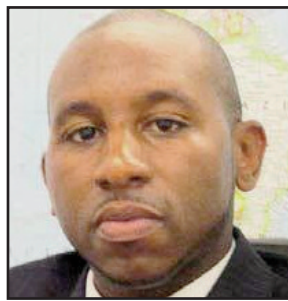
## Queens Council special election too close to call

A special election to choose a new City Council member to replace the state Senate-bound James Sanders is too close to call.

As tight preliminary results started pouring on Tuesday (February 19), both Donovan Richards and Pesach Osina had declared themselves the victor in the hotly contested race. Richards had a 26-vote lead with nearly 98 percent of the ballots counted.

Absentee ballots to be counted later could determine the outcome. The other six candidates, trailed far behind.

A spokeswoman at the



Donovan Richards had a 26-vote lead

New York Board of Elections said that if the margin of victory is less than 0.5 percent, a manual recount is automatically triggered, a process that could take weeks.

The winner will represent the 31st Council District in southeast Queens

until November 2013 when there's a general election for the council.

Richards was Sanders' former chief of staff and was endorsed by Sanders.

Osina has been active in the Orthodox Jewish community in Far Rockaway where he helped with storm relief efforts.

The preliminary results with 97% reporting:

Donovan Richards -- 2,513

Pesach Osina -- 2,487

Jacques Leandre -- 1,160

Michael Duncan -- 962

Selvena Brooks -- 817

Marie Adam-Ovide -- 159

Saywalah Kesselly -- 152

Allan Jennings -- 114

## Former Queens Senator to Plead Guilty to Corruption

QUEENS:

Former New York Senator Shirley L. Huntley has pleaded guilty recently to Tampering with Physical Evidence, an E Felony, for falsifying evidence in an effort to obstruct the investigation into the theft of a grant she sponsored for a sham non-profit entity, the Parent Workshop.

Shirley L. Huntley, 74, was charged in connection with a non-profit group she founded.



## Caribbean Teachers Still Awaiting Green Cards

By Felicia Persaud

Over sixteen dozen Caribbean-born teachers, recruited by the New York City Board of Education ten years ago to teach in public schools in the Big Apple, are still in legal limbo in the system – unable to secure green cards, News Americas Now has learned.

According to Kira Shepherd, of The Black Institute, while some 500 Caribbean teachers recruited by NYC have finally secured permanent residency status following more than a decade of waiting, 200 more are still awaiting the adjustment of status.

Most are from Jamaica – some 111 – followed by 39 from Guyana and 20 from Trinidad & Tobago. Thirteen are from the Dominican Republic; 8 from Barbados; 6 from St. Lucia; 3 from St. Vincent & the Grenadines and one each from the Bahamas, Cayman Islands, Dominica.

Yasmin Bailey-Stewart, a Jamaican-born teacher in a Brooklyn, NY school, is one of several whose papers are in process mode. She is waiting on her green card after selling everything and moving to the U.S. with a H1-B visa after being recruited in her native land.

Bailey-Stewart told NAN it's a nightmare she lives daily, especially because of the toll the immigration woes has had on her son. He has now aged out of the immigration sponsorship category because of the lengthy delay in his mother securing a green card. As a result, his only option now is to obtain residency through a comprehensive immigration reform bill.

"It has been a horror story for us as middle class professionals," said Bailey-Stewart. "You are made criminal because of the situation you are forced into and some teachers have even gotten fired leaving them now undocumented in the system as well and completely dependent on friends and family for support."

Data provided to NAN from the Black

Institute and culled from them through the Board of Ed. shows 213 teachers are now waiting on their green cards.

However, Caribbean teachers make up 61.5 percent of all teachers who have achieved permanent residency to date.

The NYC Board of Education did not respond to NAN's requests for comments as of press time, Thursday, Feb. 14th.

The attorney handling the cases in an email to NAN said the issue is "a national problem with processing times for permanent residence. Hopefully, this will be corrected with the passage of Comprehensive Immigration Reform legislation later this Spring," she added.

As part of their Joint Task Force on Public Integrity, the Offices of the Attorney General and State Comptroller previously indicted then-Senator Huntley and three individuals associated with the Parent Workshop, Inc., a nonprofit set up by former Senator Huntley that funneled member item funds intended to benefit the public to the senator's aide and to the senator's niece.

According to the state's indictment, the president and treasurer of the Parent Workshop submitted fraudulent documents to New York State to obtain public money from a legislative member item sponsored by then-Senator Huntley.

Instead of providing the promised programs, the two defendants pocketed approximately \$29,950. Huntley, who created the sham nonprofit and earmarked a member item grant to the entity, was charged with falsifying evidence in an attempt to obstruct the investigation into this theft.

An ongoing investigation into the theft revealed that, after learning of the probe into her grant to the Parent Workshop, then-Senator Huntley created a handwritten template for a false, backdated letter designed to fool investigators into believing that the Parent Workshop had conducted workshops, when in fact no such workshops were ever conducted.

This letter was submitted to Attorney General Schneiderman's Office in response to a subpoena issued to the Parent Workshop. As part of her plea, Huntley admitted her role in this cover-up.

"It is unconscionable that an elected official would deliberately tamper with a law enforcement investigation into the theft of taxpayer dollars," Attorney General Schneiderman said. "Former Senator Huntley betrayed the trust of her constituents and her public duty," Comptroller DiNapoli said.

In cooperation with federal partners, and in light of the fact that Huntley faces an 18-24 month prison sentence, prosecutors recommended a sentence of five years probation in exchange for her felony guilty plea.

# CARIBBEAN NEWS



Leader of the New National Party (NNP) Dr. Keith Mitchell

## Mitchell back as Grenada Prime Minister

ST. GEORGE'S, Grenada:

Dr. Keith Mitchell, the leader of the New National Party has been sworn in as Prime Minister of Grenada, following his party's landslide victory.

Mitchell, becomes the island-nation's ninth prime minister since attaining political independence from Britain in 1974.

Mitchell had previously served as prime minister for 13 years prior to 2008 when his New National Party was defeated by an 11-4 margin by the National Democratic Congress of Tillman Thomas.

Dr. Mitchell's message to the country after he took the oath of office administered by Governor General Sir Carlyle Glean, indicated that his first priority would be to unite the country and deal with pressing economic issues.

Meanwhile, former prime minister, Tillman Thomas, has said that he will be stepping down as leader of the National Democratic Congress and work with any leader chosen by the party.

## Chavez suffers new complications

Reports have surfaced that Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez has suffered new complications after a cancer operation in Cuba.

In a televised address from Cuba, Venezuela's Vice-President Nicolas Maduro said Mr. Chavez continued to be in a delicate state.

Maduro did not give details about Mr. Chavez's condition but said the latest complications were connected to the persistent respiratory infection.

Maduro, appearing solemn, spoke alongside Mr. Chavez's eldest daughter and Venezuelan Attorney-General Cilia Flores.

The vice-president said he would remain in Havana but did not specify how long.

## J\$16B in additional taxes for Jamaicans

KINGSTON, JAMAICA WI

The Government has set a collection target of J\$15.9 billion from the revenue measures which were announced Tuesday by Dr. Peter Phillips, Minister of Finance. They include an adjustment to the education tax and property tax.

Some of the increases will take effect as early as March 1. The revenue measures include an increase in the education tax. It will go up by 0.5 per cent for employers and 0.25 per cent for employees.

The measures include, among other things, what is described as a Telephone Call Tax (TCT) as part of the General Consumption Tax (GCT) base.

This will include telephone calls in the taxable base for the purpose of calculating GCT. This measure is expected to yield J\$1.3 billion in revenue. Also provisions will be made for an increase on pre-paid vouchers. This will affect persons who purchase phone cards at the wholesale rate. Buyers are currently taxed on a discounted rate but with the new measure they will pay the full rate. This will result in J\$200 million going into the Government's coffers.

There will also be an increase in taxes and fees paid at the ports. The environmental levy, customs user and customs administration fees will also be adjusted. The measures will be implemented on March 1.

Property tax will also be adjusted as well as the stamp duty and transfer tax for property. The stamp duty is to increase by 4 per cent while transfer tax will go up by 5 per cent.

Other taxes introduced are those to be imposed on the gaming sector with all of the popular games such as Lotto, Super Lotto and Cash Pot included in the new tax rates. This measure is expected to yield J\$1.5 billion dollars and is to be implemented on April 1.

The tax measures, however, did not go down well with the Opposition which walked out of Parliament following the Finance Minister's presentation.

## DLP retains power in Barbados

CMC - Barbadian voters kept with tradition and provided the incumbent party with a second consecutive term in power following a nerve jangling general elections here on Thursday.

According to the preliminary results, the Democratic Labour Party (DLP) won 16 of the 30 seats in the elections with the remainder going to the main opposition Barbados Labour Party (BLP).

The results are in mark contradiction to opinion polls that had predicted that the BLP led by former prime minister Owen Arthur as many as 20 seats, while the DLP would have gained 13 seats at most.

PETER PHILLIPS  
Jamaican Finance Minister



In the meantime, Andrew Holness, Opposition Leader has indicated that the Jamaica Labour Party will be hosting a series of consultations to discuss and analyze the tax package presented by the Government.

At a press conference Tuesday evening he explained that Audley Saw, Spokesman on Finance Audley Shaw, will form part of a review team.

Holness said the tax measures will have a negative effect on the economy. He said it was expected that more would have been done in tax reform.

Holness warned that the raft of taxes will stifle growth.

Shaw has also questioned the legality of taxes imposed on some transactions at the ports.

## US Peace Corps phasing out Caribbean operations

BASSETTERRE, St. Kitts (CMC):

The United States Peace Corps says it is phasing out its operations in St Kitts & Nevis, and Antigua & Barbuda after five decades of successfully meeting the their needs for trained people in education, health, agriculture, environment, youth and development, and community economic development.

According to a statement released in Washington, the Peace Corps programmes in these Eastern Caribbean countries "have been extraordinarily successful by achieving development and cultural exchange goals such as empowering local youth".

It said that the programmes leave a strong legacy in both countries that will be carried on in the communities served.

Volunteers in St Kitts and Nevis worked in the sectors of youth development, institutional development, small business development and HIV/AIDS prevention, and as Peace Corps Response volunteers, while those in Antigua and Barbuda worked in youth development and as Peace Corps Response volunteers.

"Long after the last volunteer's departure, the most essential component of these nations' cooperation with the United States will remain in the fellowship between Peace Corps volunteers and their Eastern Caribbean host families, colleagues and friends," the statement said.

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## LEGAL ISSUES

### Landlords Tenants' Rights

**L**andlords must keep records of all notices, inspections, and repairs of lead paint hazards and provide every tenant with an informational pamphlet from the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

#### Entering Your Home & Unlawful Eviction

In general in New York City, a landlord may only enter a tenant's apartment for three reasons: emergency repairs, non-emergency repairs or improvements, and apartment inspections. Emergency repair requires no advance notice to the tenant.

However, access for non-emergency repairs and improvements requires a minimum of one week's advance written notice, and access for inspection requires a minimum of 24 hours advance written notice.

A landlord may not evict a tenant from his or her apartment without a proper warrant of eviction. If the landlord changes the locks to your apartment and does not provide you with a new key, it is considered an unlawful eviction and should be reported to your local police precinct or brought to the New York City Housing Court.

#### Reporting a Problem in Your Apartment

New York City tenants are entitled to safe, decent housing. Their landlords, in turn, are required by law to provide the basic essential services that tenants need to live comfortably. If a landlord fails to provide such services or to repair poor living conditions, a tenant may report the problem to the City's Citizen Service Center by calling 311 (311 can be accessed outside of New York City by dialing (212) NEW YORK). For the hearing impaired, the TTY number is (212) 504-4115. The Center is open 24-hours a day, seven days a week.

### Immigrant Achievement Awards for Gen Powell

**T**he American Immigration Council will honor General Colin L. Powell (Retired) at its 18th Annual Washington, DC Immigrant Achievement Awards on Thursday, April 11th. The Washington, DC.

Immigrant Achievement Awards celebrate the remarkable accomplishments of immigrants and advocates from around the country at an entertaining, inspiring and thought-provoking awards ceremony.

General Powell will receive the Stephen K. Fischel Distinguished Public Service Award during the Council's annual awards ceremony. The Distinguished Public Service Award is presented to outstanding individuals or organizations who



COLIN L. POWELL United States.

Since 2008, this Distinguished Public Service Award has borne the name of the late Steve K. Fischel. A man of incredible spirit and commitment to justice, Steve spent more than 30 years at the U.S.

exhibit a commitment and dedication to our heritage as a nation of immigrants and to the struggle to create fair and humane immigration policies in the

### Woman Pleads Guilty to Smuggling Cash to Jamaica

BALTIMORE:

**J**ean Brown, 41, of Catonsville, Md., pleaded guilty on Wednesday to bulk cash smuggling after an investigation led by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Office of Homeland Security Investigations.

The guilty plea was announced by U.S. Attorney for the District of Maryland Rod J. Rosenstein and William Winter, special agent in charge of ICE HSI in Baltimore.

According to Brown's plea agreement, shortly before Dec. 25, 2008, Brown gave three other individuals a total of \$562,190 in cash to conceal in their luggage before boarding a flight to Montego Bay, Jamaica. Brown provided the plane tickets, and instructed the individuals not to declare the cash in customs and to deliver the money to Brown's family who would meet them in the

airport in Jamaica.

On Dec. 25, 2008, Brown drove the individuals to the Baltimore-Washington International Airport where they boarded their flight to Jamaica.

Before leaving the United States from Maryland, none of the individuals declared that they were carrying more than \$10,000, as required by federal law. When the flight arrived in Jamaica, the individuals presented their Jamaican Customs declaration form in which they failed to declare the money to Jamaican Customs.

The form states that if a traveler is carrying more than \$10,000 in U.S. currency, the traveler must declare the money prior to gaining entry into the country. Jamaican customs officers discovered the money in the individuals' luggage, divided among the individuals as follows: \$148,275; \$270,290; and \$143,625.



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# SPORTS



## Windies aim for clean sweep in ODI against Zimbabwe

The West Indies have taken an unbeatable 2-0 lead in their three-match One Day International (ODI) series against Zimbabwe after recording a seven-wicket win in the second match at the Grenada National Stadium on Sunday.

The Windies victory was set up by career best performances from Ramnaresh Sarwan and stand-in captain Dwayne Bravo.

Chasing 273 for victory, Sarwan who opened the innings and scored a career best of 120 not-out to guide the West Indies to victory at 274-3 with one over to spare.

Sarwan also shared in 111 run opening stand with Kieron Powell, 57. Kieron

Pollard contributed a quick fire 41 while Narsinghe Deonarine made 42.

Bravo had taken a career best 6 for 43 as Zimbabwe A posted respectable 273 for 8. Craig Irvine top-scored with 80 while Hamilton Masa-Kadza made 60, and Vusi Sibanda, 51.

Bravo, who picked up the Man of the Match Award, was full of praise for Sarwan who has been struggling for runs.

As for his own performance, Bravo said he is not yet back to his best despite his career best ODI haul.

West Indies will be hoping to complete a clean sweep on Tuesday at the same venue.

## Jamaicans winners at NCAA Indoor Championships

Jamaica's Tarik Batchelor and Chanice Porter were winners at the three-day NCAA Indoor Championships that ended at the university of Arkansas on Sunday.

Batchelor, formerly of Kingston College, and now a senior at the University of Arkansas, leapt 16.53 meters to win the men's triple jump.

Porter, formerly of Manchester High and now in her first year at the University of Georgia, registered 6.41 meters to win the Women's Long Jump and help her school to the overall title.

Damar Forbes, 2012 Olympic representative, competing for Louisiana State University, was second in the men's long jump after leaping 8.07 meters. Compatriot and LSU teammate, Natoya Goule, was also second in the women's 800 meters, posting 2.03.08 seconds.



Chanice Porter

## 2014 WORLD CUP QUALIFYING

### Mexico vs. Jamaica: score 0-0

#### Reggae Boyz earn shock draw at Azteca

The Hex was supposed to be a cakewalk for Mexico, and it may still be, but their opening match was an outright disaster. Jose "Chepo" Manuel de la Torre picked a curious team that was completely ineffective. It allowed Jamaica not just to stay in the match, but have the better chances, leaving El Tri somewhat fortunate to walk away with a 0-0 draw.

With the draw, Mexico and Jamaica join Panama and Costa Rica in second place after one matchday. Honduras lead the Hex on three points and the United States is bottom after getting beaten today.

Jamaica should have been ahead seven minutes. Jobi McAnuff hit the post, but the rebound came right back to him and he hit almost the entire net to shoot at. Unfortunately for the Reggae Boyz, McAnuff hit it the only place he couldn't

shoot it -- right at the prone Jose de Jesus Corona. It was a terrible miss by McAnuff, who was otherwise excellent all match.

Mexico did generate some chances in the middle portion of the match, but they still struggled to play with pace or any sort of creativity. Chepo chose to play in a 4-4-2, which brought Oribe Peralta into the team. Worse, it put Giovanni dos Santos on the wing, where he was predictable ineffective. To top it off, Maza Rodriguez got the nod in defense. It was a horrible match for Chepo, who seemingly sabotaged his team's chances to win, but shoddy performances by a handful of players didn't help El Tri either.

While Mexico did have a huge edge in shots, Jamaica had the better ones. They had McAnuff's two chances in the early going and then got Ryan Johnson a golden opportunity in the second half.

## Long Island Games In Track & Field Set For 2013

NEW YORK, NY:

The Island Games (IG) are back on track, literally with a big promise from the organizers.

Long Island Entrepreneur Patrick Payne, President and Founder of the IG, has announced that the one day athletics meeting will return this year to the Mitchel Athletic Complex, Uniondale, Long Island, on Sunday, May 26.

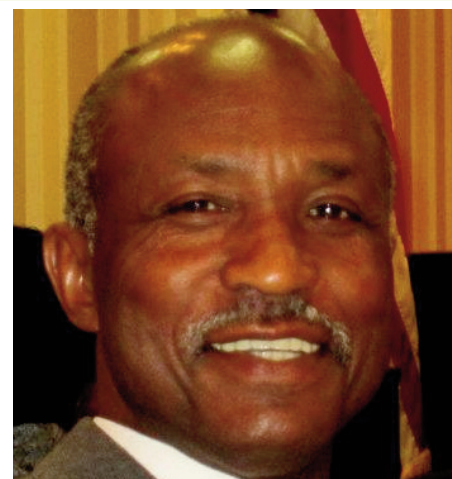
According to Payne, the IG 2013 will be bigger and better than the three previous staging, thanks to the commitment from the Office of the Nassau County Executive.

"The Administration of County Executive, Edward P Mangano of Nassau County, has played a significant role in plans to re-introduce the Games by pledging the County's endorsement", Payne noted.

At a feasibility meeting with Games organizers and leading county and park officials, the IG was described as a welcome addition to the county's socio-economic index.

"The Island Games fit into the strategic objectives of the county's plans to promote sports as an economic driver for Nassau County, and to expand use of the vast recreational resources that exists within the county", noted Robert Walker, Chief Deputy County Executive.

Bordered by the borough of Queens to the west, Nassau County (Long Island)



PATRICK PAYNE  
PRESIDENT AND FOUNDER  
ISLAND GAMES

is home to a vast numbers of Caribbean immigrants, who play a positive role in the county's development.

The meet is USATF certified and will see competition in five divisions; Midgets, HS, Colleges, Clubs and Masters. Organizers are encouraging early registration now through March 1, for individuals and teams by offering free accommodation at the IG Village at Hofstra University.

A schedule of events is posted at; [www.Island-Games.com](http://www.Island-Games.com). Entries can be mailed to Island Games 2013, 43A Main Street, Hempstead, NY 11550; e-mail: [patpyn@gmail.com](mailto:patpyn@gmail.com). Tel: 516-564-5103.

## Jamaican shines in Europe Cup victory

LONDON, England (AP) —

After accumulating titles with Europe's biggest clubs as a player, Michael Laudrup reached unexpected heights in his first year as Swansea manager yesterday by guiding the Welsh club to its first major trophy in its centenary season.

In the heaviest victory League Cup final victory, Swansea overwhelmed

Bradford 5-0 in front of over 82,000 fans at Wembley Stadium to end the northern English club's hopes of becoming the first fourth-tier side to win a major title in Europe.

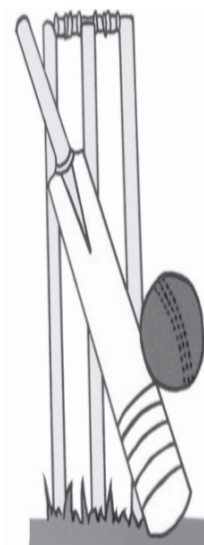
Jamaican, Nathan Dyer, who has been a target of the Jamaica national team, had already scored twice and played aggressively to help in securing a win for his team.

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## AIRM to host President's Choice Awards

The Association of Independent Reggae Music (AIRM) is holding its first annual President's Choice Awards and Indie Reggae Red Carpet Affair on February 28, 2013 at DROM, Manhattan.

The AIRM is a New York-based professional trade and membership organization committed to promoting, exposing, educating, and honoring independent reggae music industry professionals.

The "Indie" star-studded event will be hosted by Caribbean Billboard Entertainment (CBE) TV host/producer-Chip Smith and his co-Hosts Afiya Wilson and Kwana Lewis.

The Indie Reggae Artist Red Carpet Affair will be hosted by media sponsor "Come Chat Wid Mi TV." The epic event will be the first of its kind to publicly acknowledge and reward the outstanding achievements of music professionals from various fields of the independent reggae music industry who are all associated members of the AIRM.

The stated mission of the AIRM President's Choice Awards is "to celebrate and honor the best and most talented independent reggae artists, performers and music industry affiliates, to generate regional and national exposure for nominated and winning artists and to create a sense of unity within the independent reggae music industry."

The AIRM President's Choice Awards 2012 most anticipated award category is the Indie Reggae (Male & Female) Artist of the Year. Other categories being awarded are: Best Indie Reggae/Ska Band of the Year, Best Indie Reggae Record Label of the Year, Best Indie Dancehall Artist of the Year, Best Indie Reggae (Male & Female) Vocalist of the Year and more.

Live performances from nominated artists and bands, including: Judah Tribe, Up Rising Roots Band, Jah Eyes, Keisha Martin, Ziggy Bless, Iyata Safari, Ryan Oneil and Aima Moses.

### Contact:

<http://airmblog.wordpress.com>  
[airmusa.org@gmail.com](mailto:airmusa.org@gmail.com); 757-675-4995



Celia in Marcias room: Deneese Wright as Celia Thompson shares a tender moment with her sister, Marcia Simpson played by Kayla Wilson.

## Gospel Artistes shine in Jamaican Gospel Movie

KINGSTON, JAMAICA:

When Jamaica's first full length gospel movie, Just Another Friday premieres in March, gospel music lovers will see Gospel artistes Deneese Wright, Lubert Levy, NexChange and Blu Isteppa take on the stage from a different perspective.

Also adding their talents to the production are well-known poetess Denise "Defy" Fyffe and internationally acclaimed artiste, A.J. Brown. In addition to these artistes, the soundtrack also features music from Ancient Priest, JCDC Gospel Competition Best Performer 2011, and songbird Tamara Calder.

The film, produced by BarriVision Productions and Jamaica Youth for Christ's drama ministry, Acts 12 holds the distinction of being Jamaica's first Gospel movie. The majority of the film was recorded in Ocho Rios and its environs with the church scenes being done at the Franklin Town Church of God in Kingston.

Just Another Friday premieres in Kingston on Thursday, March 21, 2013 at Red Bones Blues Café and in Montego Bay on Friday, March 22 at the Fairfield Theatre. General screenings will follow at various venues island wide over that same weekend. The movie then heads for South Florida with screenings on the weekend of April 19, 2013.

Deneese Wright, a major supporting actress and on the cusp of releasing her first album, plays the role of Celia Thompson, the level-headed, Christian sister visiting with her family from Boston. In her role she brings compassion and a touch of reality to her sister whose broken family and years of neglect has finally taken its toll.

### Contact:

Judith Falloon-Reid  
[judith@barrivision.com](mailto:judith@barrivision.com)  
 954-640-3270 (US)  
 876-391-4152 (JAM)

## CRP to host 'State of Reggae Reception'

Celebrate Black History and Reggae Month with the Coalition to Preserve Reggae Music (CPR) at their annual "State of Reggae Reception" on Thursday, (February 28) 6 pm-10 pm at 1199 Ocean Avenue, Suite #407, Brooklyn.

This will include a special tribute to Clement (Sir Coxson) Dodd by his niece Maxine Stowe as well as presentations from producer extraordinaire Donovan Germain, reggae historian and producer Clive Chin and Prof. Mike Alleyne author of the Reggae Encyclopedia.

The event is free and open to the public, but due to limited space, reservations are required. The event will broadcast live on CPRLive at [cprreggae.org/player/htm](http://cprreggae.org/player/htm).

To make a reservation, send an email to [info@cprreggae.org](mailto:info@cprreggae.org) or call 718-421-6927. CPR is a tax exempt 501(c)(3) organization.

## Mount Vernon Groups Receive Grants From ArtsWestchester

MOUNT VERNON:

ArtsWestchester is awarding \$41,000 in Arts Alive grants to 35 local arts organizations, five of which are based in Mount Vernon. These grants are funded by the Decentralization Program, a re-grant program of the New York State Council on the Arts. It is administered by ArtsWestchester, based in White Plains.

"These programs make the arts easily accessible to hundreds of people by brining neighbors together for a common experience," ArtsWestchester CEO Janet Langsam said in a statement. "The grants truly help foster a sense of community."

The grants go to the following organizations: Gospel Knights of Mount Vernon, a gospel choir that performs at charitable organizations and present two concerts each year.

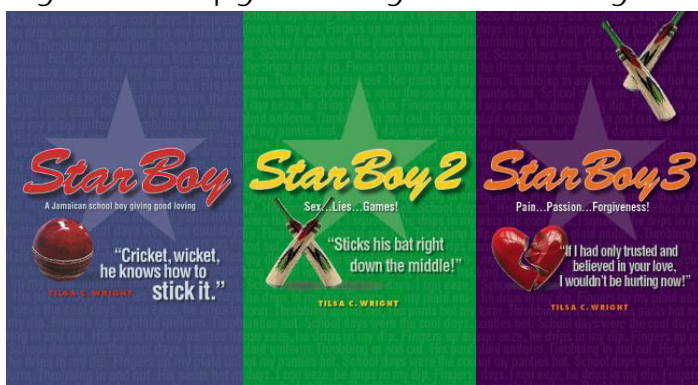
The O'Bey Foundation, a community African drum circle that channels creativity through drums and movement.

PJS Jazz Society which brings well-known jazz musicians to perform in Mount Vernon.

Mount Vernon's Heartbeat which tells stories about people making a difference in the community.

Pelham Arts Center and artist Mary Louise Gladstone in partnership with the Amani Public Charter School in Mount Vernon, which will examine quilts in relation to the American folk art tradition.

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## Everybody's Magazine To Host Mother's Day Caribbean Concert

The annual Mother's Day Caribbean Concert which started in 1976 at The Theater at Madison Square Garden, and later moved to Brooklyn, will be held on Saturday, May 11, 2013 at the Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts. The concert is under the new ownership and management of *Everybody's Magazine*, a subsidiary of Herman Hall Communications, Inc.

*Everybody's Magazine* has a strong and longstanding tradition of producing quality entertainment events and artists and fans frequently say its professionalism and integrity are impeccable.

## POLITICAL AFFAIRS

### Who is the real leader? Who is in command?

**Y**ou should know that when we, Black and Hispanic elected officials go out campaigning to become elected or re-elected, we promise our communities that we will fight, protect and stand against any and all things that will be detrimental to their benefit and goals.

That was the reason why in 2009, during the four amigos coup in the New York State Senate, I fought and asked that Blacks and Hispanics were appointed and hired to senior staff positions in the New York State Senate Democratic Conference.

At that time, all Black and Hispanic Senators were made chairs of committees, and Mr. Angelo Aponte was hired as the first Hispanic Secretary of the State Senate. Senator John Sampson became conference leader and he appointed Blacks and Hispanics as senior staff in the Democratic Conference.

Those were great achievements for our community and our people. Since then, many things have taken place in the New York State Senate, especially in our Senate Democratic Conference. All those achievements are gone and Black and Hispanic influence and power has evaporated.

You should know that during this month when we celebrate African American History and this weekend when the Black and Hispanic Caucus of Elected Officials comes to Albany to celebrate Caucus weekend, five people of Black and Hispanic descent functioning as senior staff members in the New York State Senate Democratic Conference have been removed from their positions.



#### WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

By  
Senator Rev.  
Rubén Díaz

The five who received this St. Valentine's Day Memo are: Alejandra Paulino, Secretary to the Minority, Tonya Cantlo-Cockfield, Deputy Chief of Staff, Matthew Smalls, Special Counsel, Paul Rivera, Special Advisor, and Anthony Thomas, External Relations. All of them were appointed and hired as part of the Democratic Conference Senior Staff by Senator John Sampson.

Today under the leadership of Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins, many have gone and the influence and participation of Blacks and Hispanics as senior staff members in our conference has been evaporating little by little.

You should also know that there was a coup organized by Senator Liz Krueger and Senator Michael Gianaris to substitute Senator John Sampson with Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins. Since then, one by one, our Black and Hispanic staff, little by little have been disappearing forcing me to ask the following two questions: 1) Who is really in control? 2) Who is the real leader of our conference?

-Rubén Díaz is a State Senator Democrat.



### Liu Applauds Obama's Federal Minimum Wage Proposal

City Comptroller John C. Liu issued the following statement in support of President Obama's call to increase the federal minimum wage: "New Yorkers should find a lot to like in last night's State of the

Union address. President Obama's proposal to increase the federal minimum wage to \$9.00 is necessary to rebuild the middle class and help the working poor climb out of poverty. In order to combat our City's high cost of living and growing wealth gap, we continue to call for raising the minimum wage in New York City to \$11.50 an hour. While we wholeheartedly support the

President's proposal, the fact remains that \$9.00 goes much further in Oklahoma City and Salt Lake City than in New York City."

During his December State of the City address, Comptroller Liu called for a New York City minimum wage of \$11.50 an hour, to be phased in over five years and then pegged to the Consumer Price Index.

### Minimum Wage Hike- an Immoral War on Young and Poor

**N**ew York Republican Chair Ed Cox issued the following statement recently on Gov. Cuomo's proposed minimum wage increase: "As is often the case with Andrew Cuomo's propositions, the proposed minimum wage increase is good politics for the Governor, but bad policy for New Yorkers.

"Everyone likes the sound of higher wages, but a higher minimum wage means a higher hiring cost for businesses, and a higher hiring cost means fewer jobs, especially for lower-income youths, for whom a job represents the first rung on the ladder to being a self-sufficient and contributing member of society.



"According to the Wall Street Journal, raising the minimum wage is bad for jobs and the economy generally, but without an exception for a 'training wage' for the young, it is an

immoral disaster, especially for minority youths, whose unemployment rate is close to 40%."

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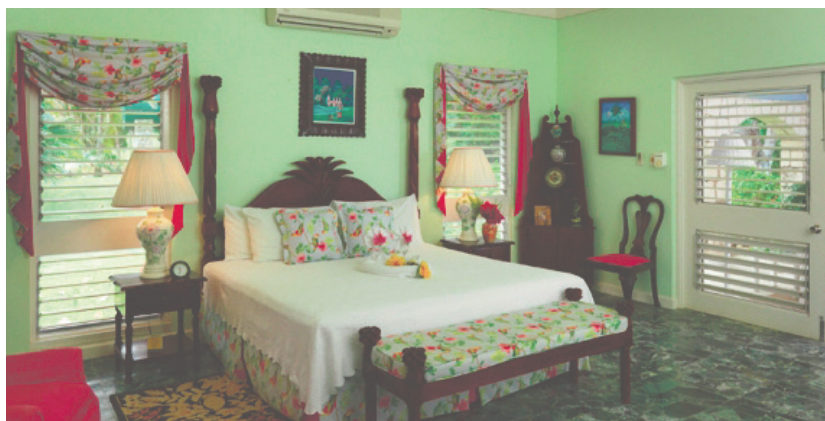
**COMMUNITY LINK:**

Bronx councilmember Andy King (l) raps with (l-r) local business leaders .Jacque Graham, manager, Country Kitchen and Sephron Mair, company executive at a recent Street Hype's sponsored Power Breakfast Meeting held at the Diner in of Pelham Manor.



**COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS PLAYS CUPID:**

Council Member Jumaane D. Williams presents handmade Valentines from local elementary schools to senior citizens at the Fort Greene Council Remsen Neighborhood Center. -Photo Credit: Monique Waterman



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Pat Brown showcasing her New Aphrodisiac 2013 collection at Plitzs Fashion Week NYC on February 8, 2013.  
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 <hotchocolate\_07203@yahoo.com>

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Attorney Erica Hunt, wife of Christopher Hunt, chairman of the David "Wagga" Hunt Scholarship Fund and brother of late KC and Calabar coach David "Wagga" Hunt. She's standing with Carlyle McKetty, President of Coalition to Preserve Reggae Music and Sharon Gordon, chair of CPR at the Jamaica US Inaugural Ball held at the National Education Association Atrium in Washington D.C.  
 Photo by: Stacy Hunt



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# YOUTH & EDUCATION

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## He cries a lot for no reason

Dear Karen,

My three-year old son is very moody. He cries a lot for no reason and prefers to be alone rather than play with his brother and cousins. His doctor says it's just a stage and he should grow out of it soon. Should I worry?

-Concerned parent from Brooklyn

Dear concerned parent,

Although it's not unusual for children to feel down in the dumps, most people assume that pre-schoolers are too young to be depressed. However, research shows that clinical depression could occur at any age.

Depression usually remains under-diagnosed among children because its symptoms are not concrete. Here are some signs to look for:

- Lack of enthusiasm or motivation
- Increased agitation and irritability
- Chronic fatigue and lack of energy
- Withdrawal from family, friends, and activities
- Changes in eating and sleeping habits
- Major developmental delays in toddlers
- Play that involves harm to self and others

To distinguish between mood swings and depression, you have to determine the duration of depressive behavior. For example, your child might experience some of these symptoms for a day or two, and in this case, he is probably not depressed.

But if he displays symptoms for more than 2 weeks, seek medical attention through consultations with a mental health specialist and your child's physician. To be classified as clinically depressed, your child must show these signs for an average of 7 to 9 months.



Council Member Andy King (10th left) and the Youth Empowerment Program members visit to Albany for the NYS Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic and Asian Caucus recently in Albany, NY. Also in the photo Deputy Borough President for the Bronx, Aurelia Greene (6th left).

## Bronx Youth Honor Puerto Rican, African-American legislators

NeNe Ali

Contributing Writer

In 1917, The New York State Assembly elected its first African-American legislator, Assemblyman Edward A. Johnson, a man born into slavery in North Carolina.

Twenty years later in 1937, Assemblyman Oscar Garcia Rivera was the first American of Puerto Rican heritage to be elected in the State Assembly.

One hundred and six years later the illustrious rich history of these two men, is honored every second weekend of February (President's Weekend) in Albany, known as the NYS Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic and Asian Legislative Caucus.

The long weekend event is set to promote, discuss, enrich and empower the lives of New Yorkers State wide.

The New York State Association of Black and Puerto

Rican Legislators, Inc. (NYS-ABPRL) was founded by legislative caucus members as a non-political, charitable organization, incorporated under section 402 of the New York Not-for-Profit Incorporation Law on October 11, 1985.

The dynamics of this event however changed when a small but effective group of youth by the name of Bronx Youth Empowerment Program (YEP) founded by City Councilmember Andy King of the 12th District, began going to the Caucus seeking enlightenment. This past weekend, the mark has been set high as Bronx YEP hosted their very own reception at caucus weekend. This will become as historic as the Caucus itself; prior to YEP's participation, no other youth group has ever gone to the Caucus seeking knowledge and enlightenment. The reception was sponsored by the Bronx

Youth Empowerment Program and UFT.

The group discussed the importance of political, economic and social programs that not only affect the overall community, but the YOUTH in our communities.

As YEP made its presentation, the room was packed with City and State officials who wanted to team up with YEP and their two founders, Andy King and Neva Shillingford -King. The legislators wanted to bring such an initiative state-wide. As a YEP member and spoken word /emcee I was the first youth ever, to be honored at the City Council reception, for my "RETHINK POVERTY" initiative. On this night, one hundred and six years after electing an African American from North Carolina born into slavery, the faces might have changed but the struggle continues.

## Report Gives High Marks To City's Charter Schools

The city's charter schools are getting some high marks from researchers on the west coast.

A new report from Stanford University says about 63 percent of the charter schools studied outperformed traditional public schools, while about 14 percent performed worse.

The researchers also looked at the amount students learned during the year.

In reading, students in New York's charter schools advanced by an additional month of learning and an additional five months in math.

The study also showed that students achieve more in math in their first year at charter schools.

A national study from 2009 had different results, saying first-year charter-school students struggled in both reading and math, but improved in following years.

There are now more than 100 charter schools across the city.


## New Teacher Evaluation System

The Cuomo administration announced on Wednesday that the state education commissioner is prepared to set a new teacher evaluation system for city public school educators by June 1, if city officials and the teachers union cannot reach an agreement by then.

Larry Schwartz, a senior advisor to Governor Andrew Cuomo, told Albany reporters that the governor is introducing a bill that would have State Education Commissioner John King choose a plan that falls with guidelines passed by the governor and the state Legislature.

The governor said Wednesday that he wants to give the state the ability to step in by June 1 in order to get the new system up and running by September, and that the newest deadline would be written into law through a budget amendment.


He said that it would give the State Education Department the power in perpetuity to step in and impose a teacher evaluation system on the city. "This is in perpetuity. Any year that New York City and New York City school district does not have a plan in place, then SED would come in and put the plan in place," Cuomo said.



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## BEAUTY CARE

# Hair Rules You're Probably Breaking

BY JANET SEARS

Whether you're after gorgeous color, a bombshell blowout, or overall super-healthy locks, stylists know the tricks to get you there.

**•Find a shampoo that lathers less.**

Sudsy doesn't necessarily mean clean—sometimes, it means the opposite. Shampoos that lather too much are often overloaded with moisturizing products, which can leave build-up in your hair, making it look and feel dirtier quicker. So opt for a sulfate-free formula.

**•Give your locks a burst of cold.**

Before you hop out of the shower, turn the cold water on for a second and quickly rinse it through your strands. It helps seal the cuticle, adding a sleek finish to your locks.

**•Play hot-and-cold as you dry.**

When using a round brush to dry your hair in sections, start from the roots and dry all the way to the ends, letting the brush linger at the tips of your strands. Let your hair cool off like this on its own for five seconds, then repeat on another section. Alternating between heat and cool-down time helps set your style, and your blowout will have more body.



**•Drop the towel.** Keeping wet strands wrapped in a towel for a half-hour as you do your make-up will just cause frizz! The roughness of the cotton forces your hair cuticles open, making them more likely to go every-which-way. Instead, squeeze out excess water as soon as you're out of the shower, then let your hair air-dry for five or ten minutes before blow-drying.

**•Apply products 10 minutes before you style.** Whether you're curling, straightening, or whatevering, applying product 10 minutes in advance helps it fully absorb into your strands so you get all of its benefits and more bang for your buck.

**•Wrap—don't clamp—your hair for quick curls.** When using a curling iron, you don't need to fasten your locks to the barrel. Wrap sections around the iron and hold in place for about 10 seconds to score the same soft, sexy curls.

**•Use dry shampoo a different way.** Instead of waiting until your locks need an dirt-fighting pick-me-up, apply a dab of dry shampoo to your roots immediately after you wash and dry them. Though your hair's already clean, the barrier will stave off the debris and oil your strands will collect throughout the day before it hits. Bonus: It also gives you killer volume.



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## TECHNOLOGY NEWS

# Hacker says security flaw let him access any Facebook profile

by Donna Tam

The social network recently fixed a bug discovered by a developer who demonstrated how the loophole let him take over other people's accounts.

A security hacker recently found a flaw in a Facebook system that allowed developers to access anyone's Facebook account through app permissions.

Though Facebook has fixed this issue, Nir Goldshlager, a Web application security specialist who looks for these types of flaws professionally, found more app authorization bugs that need fixing, according to his blog. App



permissions are what developers use to access the user data needed to run their apps. Users give them access permission when they install the apps.

"I found a couple more OAuth flaws in Facebook, just waiting for a fix to post about it," Goldshlager wrote in his blog, where he detailed his findings.

Facebook wouldn't comment on what other flaws Goldshlager may have found but did say the original bug he detected had not been taken advantage of by actu-

al Facebook developers. The company didn't say when Goldshlager reported the flaw.

"We applaud the security researcher who brought this issue to our attention and for responsibly reporting the bug to our White Hat Program. We worked with the team to make sure we understood the full scope of the vulnerability, which allowed us to fix it without any evidence that this bug was exploited in the wild," a Facebook representative wrote in an e-mail to CNET. "Due to the responsible reporting of this issue to Facebook, we have no evidence that users were impacted by this bug."

## Tech Tips

Don't use unauthorized software. It may be tempting to use useful-looking software that you can get free on the Internet, but these tools may carry a hidden cost.

Installing them may often cause other programs to stop working and it can take a long time for your IT teams to track down the problem.

More seriously, they can display unwanted ads, slow your PC down or make it less secure by letting the PC download more ads from the Internet. Most seriously, they can be infected by viruses or spyware that are intended to damage your PC or steal confidential information.

**FREE software...Make sure you don't get more than you bargain for.**

Free software that you download could be just what you think it is — a single software package.

However, many times free software comes bundled with other unwanted, harmful programs including spyware, viruses, or even Trojan horse programs.

To help keep your computer free from unwanted guests, make sure the site you are downloading from is one you know and trust.

Also verify that your operating system and anti-virus software have been updated and

**Tech Talk**  
with  
**Ken Miller**



kenmiller4u@hotmail.com  
• 718-8076241

patched BEFORE you click the download button!

**How to spot a phishing email...**

It could be a phishing email if...

- There are misspelled words in the e-mail or it contains poor grammar.
- The message is asking for personally identifiable information, such as credit card numbers, account numbers, passwords, PINs or Social Security Numbers.

- There are "threats" or alarming statements that create a sense of urgency. For example: "Your account will be locked until we hear from you" or "We have noticed activity on your account from a foreign IP address."
- The domain name in the message isn't the one you're used to seeing. It's usually close to the real domain name but not exact.

For example:

o Phishing website: [www.regions-banking.com](http://www.regions-banking.com)

o Real website: [www.regions.com](http://www.regions.com)  
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## Relationships Equal Quality Care

By Daseta Gray

Experience has taught us that infants and toddlers thrive in a loving caring environment. Research and experience has also taught us that the adults who care for infants and toddlers must have healthy relationships with each other.

When care givers and families gather in celebration children get the message "I belong here and I am being celebrated". This is true for families when a new child arrives.

Research has shown that stress has with families for example: (the birth of a child, changing or loosing employment can greatly affect infants/toddlers. As a care giver you should make an effort to have positive emotions.

A care giver is defined as the adults who are responsible for giving care to children. This can be parents, grandparents, foster parent, childcare program, family members, after school program, group homes etc.

Think back to your early years as you reflect on the adults that had positive relationships with you, it may be your grandmother who told you family stories, it may be your dad who read you a stories, and it may be an older sibling who always had your back.

Maybe your earliest memories may not be so pleasant. You may have been cared for but did not feel the adults cared about you? Many of us as we reflect on our early relationships with adults, we may remember good relationships and poor relationships.

One-third of all children entering foster care are zero to three years of age, and 15 percent are babies under age one. Many are removed from their parents and are placed in foster homes because the court decided that it is not safe for the child to be



at home. Many of these infants and toddlers do not experience healthy relationships and as a result will suffer emotional trauma as a result of forced separation. The effects will be played out in pre-kindergarten settings. Many times these damages go un-repair and stay with the child into their adult years. The infant/toddler years are the roots of socialization.

In 2000, 55 % of mothers with infants were in the labor force. In 2001, 61 % of all children participated in some sort of non-parental care.

Many children are cared for by adults outside their home who are not related to them. It is crucial that adults who care for infants and toddlers both in childcare settings and at home provide a nurturing and safe environment for them.

When adults are hostile with each other it affects the way the infants/toddlers interpret the world, they will see the world as being hostile and will behave that way. Infants/toddlers will think all adults will be hostile toward them.

Your home and your care giving space is a reflection of the world. The experiences that you give infants/toddlers help them to begin their interpretation of the world and also defining who they are and how they fit. Adult relationships have a major impact on children's lives.

ADVICE  
COLUMN

BY  
DIVINE DIVA



## Teenager Embarrassed and Ashamed

Dear Divine:

Recentl when I'm upset about something, I have been snapping my wrists with rubber bands. It seemed harmless at first, better than cutting, right? But I have noticed that now I have red lines that never go away and the welts take longer to disappear, and I'm constantly having to cover them up.

At 14 and I'm worried that I can't stop doing it. I'm not even sure why I do it, but I'm actually more scared to stop than I am to continue. I'm embarrassed and ashamed, and I don't want to hurt my family. I know they'd be upset if they found out. I don't want to ask for help, but also, I don't want to stop. Please help me.

--John, Brooklyn

Dear John:

The first step in resolving a problem is recognizing you have one and that you need help. You have done that. I have

heard from other young people that they're embarrassed, ashamed or scared to tell their parents they have a problem because they're afraid their parents will become upset or angry. This is wrong. Parents may react -- but only out of concern.

Snapping a rubber band is a technique some people use to stop a bad habit -- like smoking. You, however, appear to be using it as a way of not dealing with your emotions. The marks on your wrists may be caused because the rubber bands are so tight they are cutting off your circulation.

There is a reason you are trying to distract yourself with pain, and it's important that you find out what it is so your behavior doesn't escalate. A licensed mental health professional can help you quickly get to the root of your problem, and telling your parents what's going on is the fastest way to get that help.

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## HOROSCOPE

**ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 19):** It's easy to be in touch with your inner world, but it's not so simple to say what's on your mind while in the presence of others. You may grow restless if you feel constrained by current circumstances.

**TAURUS (Apr. 20-May 20):** You might be overly pushy when sharing something you would normally keep to yourself. Whether you are eager to discuss your recent dreams, deep spiritual beliefs or hidden secrets, this could be the day to do it.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** You may be excited about an upcoming event, remember that others might not share your enthusiasm. Your tendency is to try even harder to get a positive response if they don't offer the support you expect.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Your drive for success may have you up at the crack of dawn as if there might not be sufficient time to accomplish all the tasks on your list. But your eagerness could fade when you realize that everything will require extra effort.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** You're ready to fly away as a yearning for an exotic adventure beckons you to go somewhere special. It may not be that simple, unless you can make it a lunchtime getaway. As motivated as you are today, your fantasy must ultimately answer to your responsibilities at work.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22):** You're operating within your intellectual comfort zone and you are confident because you know how to apply your expertise. Your belief that you're being useful is your idea of heaven, because you know exactly what you're doing and you feel empowered by your contribution.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** You could learn a valuable lesson by looking back in your life at past events as you try to untangle a present dilemma at work. You can use your contemplative mood to your advantage. Although it may be difficult to make up your mind, simplify the facts and just make the best decision in the moment.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** You have sufficient energy now to initiate action where necessary, yet without pushing so hard as to stir up resistance. Instead of tackling a large project, you are better off taking care of many smaller tasks to give you a greater sense of accomplishment by the end of the day.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Even if your head is up in the clouds, a shift in attitude can bring you safely and gently back to earth. Whatever obstacles come your way, focus on the most practical solutions. You might not be in the most creative space now, but you will feel good about what you accomplish.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19):** Be careful how you express your displeasure at home, for the tiniest annoyance could quickly escalate into something bigger. A dramatic display of your anger is ill advised, for others might overreact to whatever you say now. Seek common ground through open dialogue.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** You are easily encouraged to begin a new project before considering the impact it could have on your current workload. You are liable to spin your wheels now and not necessarily get anywhere, unless you set clear priorities and make up your mind to stay on track, no matter what.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20):** Your new way of seeing your role as a participant in a group process is likely based on very practical ideas. Although your thoughts seem to originate in the clouds of imagination, don't be shy about expressing them now.



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### U.S. POSTAL SERVICE HONORING ROSA PARKS

The United States Postal Service marked the beginning of Black History Month with a Forever stamp honoring civil rights icon Rosa Parks. At 11 a.m. on Wednesday, February 27, 2013 the Postal Service will hold its Annual Black History Month Stamp Dedication at Mount Vernon City Hall to unveil the Rosa Parks stamp.

Parks, a black seamstress whose refusal to relinquish her seat to a white man on a city bus in Montgomery, Alabama almost 60 years ago, grew into a mythic event that helped touch off the civil rights movement of the 1950's and 1960's.

For her act of defiance, Mrs. Parks was arrested in Detroit, convicted of violating the segregation laws and fined \$10,



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## HEALTH & NUTRITION

### WHY AM I SO SICK?

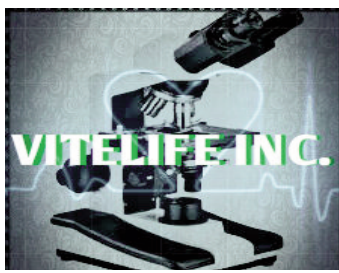
**O**rthomolecular treatment (right food for molecules) is the missing link between good and bad health. Our bodies are made up of food, water, air, EFA and light. Hence, it makes perfect sense to turn to these sources to cure all diseases.

Toximolecular treatment (synthetic medicine), has become the norm for so many. This kind of treatment of diseases acts against nature and our molecules do not recognize or welcome them. A band-aid for symptoms is all they represent – so disease live and continues to grow.

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Our fully certified Practitioners and Educators have been trained to use certain Non-invasive techniques and state-of-the-art equipment to chart and create each person's Personal Body Blueprint (PBB). Through these techniques, we are able to determine certain obvious imbalances in every body system (organs, muscles, body fluids, etc).



Upon determination, and also through full visual disclosure, each person gets the chance to participate in their own approach to bring back harmony to their body cells, thereby allowing the body to naturally heal itself as nature intended.

Our approach is purely naturopathic, meaning we do not use or encourage the use of non-plant or chemically derived sources for treatment.

We have several approaches to getting each client well – through guided nutritional changes, drug-free treatment and sometimes just plain abstinence from the causative agents.

We encourage balanced approach to nutrition based on each person's chemistry as determined by the tests performed. Procedures are totally non-invasive and every technique is visibly live to each client, allowing their participation or comments as we proceed.

Our center is located at 587 Main St, Ste 208 in New Rochelle, Westchester County NY. We are available for group demonstrations to churches and other civic group with good intentions for their members.

*For appointments or to schedule sessions call 914-278-9394.*

### Improving America's Health

**M**arch is National Nutrition Month®, when the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics reminds everyone to return to the basics of healthy eating. It is also the time of year when the Academy celebrates the contributions and expertise of registered dietitians as the food and nutrition experts.

“March 13 marks the sixth annual Registered Dietitian Day, a day when we recognize the important work of RDs in improving the public health through food and nutrition,” says registered dietitian and Academy Spokesperson Melinda Johnson.

The RD credential is vital when determining who is the best source of safe and accurate nutrition information.

“Scientific research highlights nutrition as one of the leading lifestyle factors in health promotion and disease prevention throughout life,” Johnson says.

“Registered dietitians translate nutrition science into practical and applicable ways for people to bring nutritious foods into their daily lives.

It is our role to discern between fact and fiction and give people the tools to make realistic eating behavior changes.”

Registered dietitians meet stringent academic and professional requirements, including earning at least a bachelor's degree, completing a supervised practice program and passing a registration examination. RDs must also complete continuing professional educational requirements to maintain registration. More than half of all RDs have also earned master's degrees or higher.

The majority of registered dietitians work in the treatment and prevention of disease (administering medical nutrition therapy, as part of medical teams), often in hospitals, HMOs, private practice or other health care facilities.

#### NutriCare

By  
**Gloria Bent,**  
MS, RD, CDN  
Nutritionist



*Questions & Comments:*  
[Gloria.Bent@gmail.com](mailto:Gloria.Bent@gmail.com)

In addition, RDs work in community and public health settings and academia and research. RDs work with food and nutrition industry and business, journalism, sports nutrition, corporate wellness programs and other work settings.

“Registered dietitians’ expertise in nutrition and health is more extensive than any other health profession and has been recognized as such by Congress as well as federal health agencies like the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services,” Johnson says.

“Numerous scientific studies over many years, including studies mandated by Congress, have shown that medical nutrition therapy provided by a registered dietitian can lower health costs, decrease hospital stays and improve people's health,” Johnson says.

Learn more about what a registered dietitian can do for you and find a registered dietitian in your area at [eatright.org/RD](http://eatright.org/RD).

Celebrated each March, National Nutrition Month is a nutrition education and information campaign created by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics to focus attention on the importance of making informed food and nutrition choices and developing sound eating and physical activity habits.

**March is National Nutrition Month**

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## Simple Ways To Improve Customer Satisfaction Today

By Caron Beesley,  
Community Moderator

As business owners, we'd all like to think of ourselves as providers of great customer service. As small business owners in particular, it's quite possibly your biggest differentiator. After all, how often is it that you walk into a national chain restaurant and are greeted by name, handed your favorite drink and made to feel like part of the family?

But great customer service is also about knowing how to handle problems, responding to and resolving issues—something at which agile small businesses can often excel.

If customer satisfaction is your goal, then great customer service will get you there. Here are three simple things you can do to embed customer service into your business philosophy and day-to-day operations:

**Listen and Learn**—Listening is key to effective customer service and it can also help boost your profitability. Here are two ways to prove to your customers that you are listening—and tips on how to make it count:

**Everyday Customer Interaction**—Show you are listening to your customers by taking notes or repeating back what your customer has said. Listen to their words and tone.

Observe their body language. Provide them clear and concise communication. Ask clarifying questions to gain understanding before you provide a response. If you can't respond immediately, be sure to provide a timeline for response and make a note in your calendar to do so. Follow up, confirm the resolution and check for customer satisfaction and completion.

**Facilitating Feedback**—If you don't have a reason for face-to-face interaction with a customer, look for ways to stay in



touch and show you are listening and eager to keep the lines of communication open. For example, follow up with a customer after a sale to prove to your customers that you want to hear from them. Hand out in-store or post-sale surveys to find out what they'd like to see from your brand—and stay active on social media (more on this below). Customer service is, after all, about meeting the needs and expectations of the customer as defined

by the customer. By soliciting feedback and using that information to inform your business you will find new ways to ensure your business is relevant to them and hopefully open new lines of profitable opportunity.

In order to have effective customer service, you must know what your customers want, provide it to them on a consistent basis and ask them how you are doing.

**Look For Ways to Treat Customers As You Would Like To Be Treated**—Remember, how you and your staff communicate with your customers is just as important as what you communicate. Remember that your customer wants to see the sunny side of you and your business, so have your filter on and put yourself in their shoes.

A good way to instill this attitude among your staff is to do some simple role play in which they act out a few scenarios that involve both easy-going and difficult customers. Observe how they handle the situa-

tion and coach them on areas to improve.

For example: How are customers being greeted? —Put them at ease and make them feel comfortable! This sets the tone for the rest of the transaction.

Demonstrate that your customers are valued—Let them know you think they are important. Your sincerity makes them feel good about you and the organization.

**Ask how to help your customers**—Find out what they want. It is important that each customer encounter makes them feel satisfied.

Don't challenge disgruntled customers — Listen, reassure them that you'll escalate or act on their complaint and follow through until resolution.

**Help customers**—Help them get what they want. Make it easy for customers to locate or obtain the information they need. Answer their questions in a timely manner.



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# The Fear Of Death

The Bible is not silent on Death and we should not be silent either. However, it is safe to say most people do not like to think about Death, much less discuss it.

We dismiss it from our minds, assuring ourselves that it is in the far distant future. "Why one may ask" Simple because Death is a two-fold issue. 1) It is a farewell to all the pleasures and fellowship of this world and 2) It is a pathway to another life no one want to leave and go.

Accordingly, the bible exhorts us to live with an eternal perspective (Psalm 139:24) we are to "set our minds on the things above, and not on the things that are on earth" (Colossians 3:2 and 1 John 2:15-16 ) in-other-words our minds should be on the world we are going and not on the one we are leaving.

Yet the church today is filled with professing Christians who are clinging to

By  
Rev. Dr. A. Roy Jacobs,  
Pastoral Counselor  
& Columnist  
iroy1470@yahoo.com



this world as if it were their only hope. Death is a fact that all people need to face and prepare for in order to gain eternal life in Heaven or eternal condemnation in Hell.

Life offers many choices. Eternity offers only two "Heaven and Hell". According to (Hebrew 9:27) we all have an appointment with death and I honestly pray this article will liberate you from any fear of it.

Recently, I was honored to be a part of the officiating clergy at my sister's funeral and when the topic of death hit me at that sober moment, a new revelation surely reminded me that physical death became the penalty of sin, and drastically reduced the life span of man from an average of 912 years in Adam's days to today's slow of 70 years- referred to as three scores and ten.

I urged each of you to search God's word for insights about death and eternity and examine your attitude on both without delay. Death must not be feared it must be defeated with the message of the Cross for us to gain everlasting life with our Creator.

The problem we face is due to the fact that many pastors avoid teaching and preaching God's word with conviction and the coming Kingdom Age.

## In Memory of David Baldwin Barnes



July 15, 1982 - February 18, 2013

David Baldwin Barnes was one of the most interesting men in the World. On the evening of February 18, 2013 in Accra, Ghana, David was in a car accident while riding his motorcycle home after business meetings and time with friends. He was immediately rushed to the hospital, but did not survive his injuries.

While living in DC, David was recognized as one of The HILL's top "Movers and Shakers" "I'm extremely saddened by the loss of such a promising star, David.

I had the honor of having him work in my Washington office. His passion for people and ability to navigate Capitol Hill illustrated that he was someone special from the start.

David's ambition, entrepreneurial spirit, sense of style, and electrifying personality will truly be missed" says his former boss, Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke.

He took his relationship building skills across the sea to Ghana where he was a partner with SOLVE, a sustainable agriculture business.

David was proud to be of Jamaican and Haitian decent and lived the meaning of his name: Beloved. So many loved him and feel the ache of this loss.

He is survived by his mother, father and one brother and a sister.

David's family created a memorial FaceBook page, named David Baldwin Barnes-Memorial, in which they will use to notify every one of arrangements and services.

Please join his family and friends in celebrating the life and legacy of David by contributing to his Memorial Fund.

Donations will cover the cost of the transportation of his body and burial.

Please visit his PayPal page at bsbarnes7@gmail.com. Every dollar helps.

Condolences can be mailed to:  
The Family of David Barnes  
Attn: Baldwin Barnes  
25 Stonewall Circle  
White Plains, NY 10607

## Clarke Wants African Diaspora In Immigration Debate

By Aubrey Campbell  
Contributing Writer

Noting the diversity of the USA population and the contribution of Blacks to the economic equation of their respective communities, at least one US lawmaker wants more inclusivity in the push for immigration reform.

U.S. Representative Yvette D. Clarke of Brooklyn, NY, this week called on the Obama Administration and her colleagues in Congress to expand the face of immigration beyond the Latino (Spanish speaking) community, and to recognize the African Diaspora that exists in the U.S.

The call was made on Monday, (February 4) during a meeting of the

Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) on the House floor, for a Special Order on Immigration Reform. "We must embrace the diversity of those who are impacted by reform and understand that this debate cannot solely rest on the shoulders of our Latino brothers and sisters. Our nation's fixation on Latinos as the target immigrant group has resulted in a skewed depiction of the diversity of our immigrant population," stated Clarke.



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